

APPROVED
Calais Roads Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, Oct. 23, 2014

at the Calais Town Office

(approved Nov 19, 2014)

Committee members present clock wise from the chair: Stephanie Kaplan (Vice Chair), and Peter Harvey (Secretary) THIS MEETING DID NOT HAVE QUORUM

Committee members absent: Barbara Weedon, Doug Lilley, and Gary Schultz.

Others present: Rick Kehne and Rose Pelchuck.

This meeting began at 10:05 AM.

- Public Comments
 - Rick & Rose took part in the discussions.
- New Meeting times
 - The 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 PM at the Town Office
 - To be voted on at the next meeting with a quorum.
- Assessment of the Oct 14 site visit to Lightening Ridge Rd
 - Rick suggested looking into lime green pedestrian signs for the school and “gate posting” road warning intersection signs up the hill west of Gray Rd intersection.
 - Rick suggested asking Joe Kelly to come out for a site visit about school signage.
 - Rick questioned how the winter freezing will affect vertical lift in a plowed verge?
 - We will watch the plowed verges for problems this winter.
 - The road width of the long straight hill east of Doug Lilley’s (labeled residence #756 in our notes) is 22 ft wide. We recommend seeding the verge to narrow the gravel road to 20 ft.
 - Farm Zone – Doug Lilley’s persistence over the years has kept the road between his house and barn narrower than the rest of Lightening Ridge Rd. At his house the total gravel road is 17 ft wide, 3 ft narrower than the limit of 20 ft for a collector road. The packed traveled portion of the roadway is 15 ft at this point and it is our observation that it does slow traffic down noticeably, just the way we want it to.

- At their Sept 22 meeting the Selectboard accepted the roads classification map for paved, collector, and very low traffic roads, but left the classifications for secondary roads unclassified “for further discussion.” The Selectboard singled out Lightening Ride Rd and West County Rd to take a better look at classification.
- This morning we all agreed that Lightening Ridge Rd should be labeled a collector, with narrower and slower sections in places of concern.
- Rick said we need to address Snow Emergency Routes. Rick is going to look into the differences between what the Selectboard has designated Snow Emergency Routes and our Road Classification Map.
- Rick suggested cycling the speed cart through a list of places we want to slow people down.
 - the school
 - Maple Corner
 - and other locations.
- Rick warned of “white out” not noticing signs that are too numerous and not paying attention to the speed cart if it is in one place too much. If it is place and removed on a cycle people remember that it was there and learn to slow down.
- Rick –curves have a traffic calming effect.
- Rick suggested that this winter the intersections be snow plowed to standard “T” dimensions with standard corner turning radiuses of (33?) ft
- Rick suggested speed check studies before and after changes have been made to bring the roads into compliance with the Calais Roads and Bridges Standards. “We are doing things that no one else is doing. We need to study the effect of these changes.”
- Peter & Rick will meet at Mike Garand’s to look at possibly moving the road over to create a traffic calming curve and may also meet with Mike & Toby about it.
- We recommend snow plowing the Lightening Ridge Rd/Adamant Rd intersection and other intersections in Calais to the dimensions of a stand “T” intersection this winter to see how that configuration works.
- Visit to the Lower Martin Rd culvert under construction near the intersection with Haggett Rd.
 - not addressed at this meeting
- Traffic counter recommendations
 - Recommended new placements for recording traffic and speeds for one week intervals. List to be forwarded to Toby Talbot, Road Supervisor
 - The Committee requests three week traffic study west of the school.

- 1st week - a traffic /speed counter on Lightening Ridge Rd between Gray Rd and Louis Franks' farm to measure the traffic speed the week before the speed cart.
- 2nd week – place the speed cart on Lightening Ridge Rd west of Chapin Rd in the east bound lane to slow down cars driving toward the school.
- 3rd week - remove the speed cart and put a traffic/speed counter back between Gray Rd and Louis Franks' farm to measure the traffic speed the week after the speed cart.
- The Committee requests 3 traffic counters in Adamant Village at the intersection of Adamant Rd, Center Rd, and Haggett Rd. to study the traffic patterns, ie, which is the most used route.
- Other business
 - none
- Future meeting agenda items:
 - Toby's request to change the Calais Road and Bridge Standards requirements to allow more steel guard rails in place of wood guard rails in some locations.
 - Meet with Toby about our survey of Lightening Ridge Rd.

“Where used, guardrails shall be unobtrusive, no larger than necessary and fit with the character of the road. Guardrails shall be made using effective AASHTO approved standards for wooden or box beam rails and posts. (See AASHTO standard 5.4.1.11 Backed Timber Guardrail)” (page 8)

- Adjourned
 - At 12:20
- Next regular meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2015, 7 to 9 pm at the Calais Town Office.

Submitted by Peter Harvey, Secretary